

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Yellow-Crowned Night Heron 2. Number 4 imm
3. Location Forney's Lake, Reverton
4. Date: July 19, 20 5. Time Bird Seen: about 5:00 PM to 8:00 AM 5:30 PM to 8:01 AM

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Birds generally Bluish Gray with small spots on back
Bluish Gray streaks on underparts, beak yellow
with some black at tip also thicker than Black-crowned
beak. When flying the foot and at least 1 inch
or more of the leg could be seen. The posture
was also different from Black-crowned N.H. these
birds stood up straight like Egrets or other herons
whereas the Black-crowns are always crunched down.

7. Description of voice, if heard: not heard

8. Description of behavior: Seems to be tamer than Black-Crowned

9. Habitat - general: open marsh at Forney's Lake, water canal at Reverton
specific: Water less than foot deep 1 bird flushed out of Cattails
other 2 in the open in water canal past the Cattails

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:

imm Black-crowned Night Herons are generally a light brown color.
only the foot can be seen when flying. Posture is almost always
1 telephone pole lengths from me. 7x50 binoculars

11. Distance (how measured)? about 30 feet 12. Optical equipment: crouched up

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):

Sun behind our back. Clear sky.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

I haven't seen this species before. My dad has seen

15. Other observers: Tom Stone Senior them in Texas + Louis.

16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

Birds of North America gives good description of bird. Ross
Silcock pointed out the different postures of both Night Herons

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?

Signature: immediately after birds were seen.
Tom Stone Jr. Address: 1632 Woodway.

Date: Aug. 3 City, State: Waterloo, Ia